

THE CAPE WEEKLY TRIBUNE

AND THE CAPE COUNTY HERALD

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JAMES P. WHITESIDE, Editor.

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

THE OLD YEAR'S RECORD.

Aside from the fact that the United States approached to the very brink of war and backed away time after time, there were not many achievements that will make 1915 remembered. It was a year of only suspense in the United States, and a period of calamity in Europe.

Conditions in this country improved slightly last year over the preceding months of the war, but the change was not of an epoch making character.

The new year will bring this nation a new President, and it may therefore be said that 1916 will pass into history with more important achievements than were recorded in 1915.

The end of the war will bring a revival of business here and elsewhere, and peace, no matter whether it stimulated or depressed business would be a blessing to all mankind, and would make 1916 truly a memorable year.

But the vanished year brought us twelve months nearer the end of the conflict in Europe. About the only pleasant thought concerning the war is the knowledge that it eventually must end, and the eighteen months that it has been in progress are eighteen months that cannot be fought over. And it is refreshing to know that the months already consumed are behind us. Nineteen fifteen will be remembered as having brought the world nearer to the close of the world's greatest war.

GARRISON'S ARMY PLAN.

Secretary of War Garrison, in the seclusion of his New Jersey home, is codifying the department reports and evolving the outlines of the Administration's national defense plan as it applies to the United States army, intended to define a military policy founded on the conclusions of the military experts of the nation.

Some of the details of the military programme having filtered through the seclusion of the War Secretary's workshop, it is interesting to note that the defense plans contemplate the enrollment and partial training within three years of 500,000 mobile troops, and within six years of an additional force of 500,000 reserves for the troops with the colors.

The present strength of the United States army, staff and line, is 84,859, exclusive of a provisional force and the hospital corps. The present law provides that the total enlisted strength at no time shall exceed 100,000. In other words, it is proposed by the Secretary, with the Administration behind him, backed up by the Senate and House, to increase the United States army nine fold—or to a million men.

It is proposed to form a plan of voluntary military service the most attractive to devise, by offering the possibility of organizing in time of peace an adequate volunteer army system. It is the idea of the Secretary to raise a regular mobile army sufficient to co-operate with the training of the continentals and also to carry on "the necessary activities." As preparations for peace no one will say that the plans of Secretary Garrison are not ambitious.

But this is not all. The plans as outlined, include, beginning at once, and continuing for four years, the expenditure of nearly \$100,000,000 on extension and improvement of coast defenses, making them superior to those of any other nation has ever contemplated, and furnishing an adequate trained force to man them. It is also contemplated to build up within four years a reserve supply of war material to cost \$104,000,000, and the inauguration of a system under which commercial munition plants may be fostered by the Government. The vital things, it is contended, is to obtain the names of 400,000 men who are obligated to come to the colors at call, and to supply them with arms and equipment, and organization and mobilization instruction.

When to the plans for strengthening the army are added the elaborate plans being formulated for the American navy, even Theodore Roosevelt would not afford to be dissatisfied—at any moment working or sleeping, when he forgets his craving for another cup of coffee.

JIM REED IN THE SENATE.

According to reports from Jefferson City, Gov. Major still hopes to be nominated for United States Senator this year. Gov. Major ought to forget it. He is not the equal of Senator Reed as a statesman, and he could not defeat Reed in a primary election, which he would have to do to take Senator Reed's place in Washington.

Missouri has not had a United States Senator of Reed's caliber since the days of George Graham Vest. Although he has served but one term, he ranks in importance with the oldest and most distinguished members of that body.

Senator Reed has in future before him that will reflect credit upon his state, and it would be a matter of sincere regret to all the people of Missouri should party strife deprive him of his seat in the upper branch of Congress.

Reed belongs to the new political regime. He is neither radical nor conservative. He is the happy medium, sincere in his convictions and not afraid to do that which he believes will serve his constituents best, and more than that, no one could do.

Senator Reed is with his party in Congress when he believes his party is right, but against it when convinced that those of his own political faith have transgressed. Within a few months after he had taken his seat in the Senate he took issue with President Wilson upon the question of whether or not the United States should favor American controlled ships plying the waters of the Panama Canal.

While he lost his fight, he did not sacrifice honor or self respect. Both the Democratic and Republican parties had declared for exemption of tolls to American vessels passing through the Panama Canal. He took a prominent part in framing the Democratic platform and he contended in Congress that his party should live up to a promise it had made before the election, even if the Republicans violated their pledge. In this contest he fought with Democrats and Republicans against Democrats and Republicans.

This merely illustrates that Senator Reed thinks independently and defends his own convictions whether his party fights with him or not. That was a characteristic of Vest, whose record will live long after the present generation is forgotten. That quality was a virtue that made Abraham Lincoln immortal.

The Democratic party has not another Jim Reed in Missouri. The party displayed wisdom in making him a United States Senator, and it would make an unpardonable blunder by endangering his chances of re-election with a contest for the nomination. Jim Reed has won a second term, and if the leaders of his own party will let him alone, the people will see that he gets it.

Now that Champ Clark has formally refused to accept the nomination for Governor, we may prepare to hear that some other Democrats are willing to make the sacrifice.

Col. Roosevelt announces that he will not run for the presidency. But he said that once before and then tossed his hat in the ring for a third term.

Whatever may be said in condemnation of President Carranza of Mexico, it must be admitted that he has held the job for two or three months without being assassinated, which is more than some of his predecessors were able to say.

Without attempting to give any of Henry Ford's secrets away, we imagine that his attorneys will soon be called Ocaras.

CAPE IS GRANTED A REHEARING IN COAL RATE CASE

Interstate Commerce Commission Orders Railroads to Produce New Excuses.

FRISCO AIDED CITY IN FIGHT ON RATE

Kage And Harrison Win Victory In Contest With Chicago And Eastern Illinois.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The Interstate Commerce Commission today ordered reopened the case involving an increase in the coal rates from points in Illinois on the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railway, the Illinois Central Railway, and the St. Louis and Southwestern Railway to Hazel Spur, Rockview, Chaffee and Cape Girardeau, Mo.

This action was taken at the urgent request of the business men in Cape Girardeau, who claim that the increase was granted to the railroads without giving the business men on that Missouri city an opportunity to be heard.

No date has been set for a rehearing, when each city affected by the increase will be given a chance to appear before the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The increase, which became effective September 30, advanced the rate on coal from 60 cents to 75 cents a ton for all delivered in this city over the Frisco railroad. The advance in rates violated the terms of the Frisco's franchise with the city of Cape Girardeau. The railroad, as part of its compensation for the franchise, made a flat coal rate of sixty cents per ton, and this schedule was to remain in force for a period of thirty years.

When the Frisco and the city entered into this compact, the Chicago and Eastern Illinois were virtually one company, but they became separated about eighteen months ago. One year ago the C. & E. I. came to the conclusion that its rate on coal was too low and it made a request of the Interstate Commerce Commission for an advance in its tariffs.

The appeal of the C. & E. I. was taken up with similar requests from other roads by the Interstate Commerce Commission at a hearing held in Chicago last February. A notification of the hearing was sent to the late George Chaffee, then city clerk of Cape Girardeau. Through an error, it is stated, the notice was misplaced, and Cape Girardeau had no representative at the hearing. The commission took the matter under advisement and later approved the increase.

The Frisco railroad, it is said, concurred in the increase without thinking of its agreement with the city of Cape Girardeau. The increase to the C. & E. I., of course, was to be participated in by the Frisco, because both roads co-operating in transporting coal from the mines at Marion, Ill., to this city.

The C. & E. I. carries the coal down the eastern side of the Mississippi river to Thebes, where it crosses the stream and transfers its hauls to the Frisco at Chaffee. There the Frisco takes charge of the coal and brings it to this city.

When the notification reached Cape Girardeau that the increase would become effective September 30, Mayor Kage sent two telegrams to the Interstate Commerce Commission, requesting a rehearing. Charles L. Harrison was selected to represent the Commercial Club in an effort to induce the commission to reopen the case.

After a conference between Mayor Kage and Mr. Harrison the Frisco railroad was notified that the increase set aside the railroad's contract with the Cape, and that after September 30, it would be using the river front without permission and was subject to the penalties called for in its franchise with the city.

The Frisco railroad then joined the city of Cape Girardeau in a protest against the advance in coal rates and appealed to the Interstate Commerce Commission to reopen the case. The Frisco railroad, The Tribune learned last night, will appear before the commission at the next hearing and present its arguments jointly with the city of Cape Girardeau, to set aside the advance granted to the Chicago and Eastern Illinois in its application to Cape Girardeau.

W. L. Barrett, of Poplar Bluff, field agent for the Normal School, yesterday afternoon was a business visitor in the Cape.

WRITES POEM ON PLASTER WORKERS

Cape Man Describes His Companions' Foibles In Verses.

Under the caption of "Correspondence from Cape Girardeau," F. F. Goetz, treasurer of the Cape's organization of plasterers, has eulogized each of the Cape's white-wall men in verse in November issue of The Plasterer, the official organ of the Operative Plasterers and Cement Finishers' International Association of the United States and Canada.

The monthly periodical is published at Pittsburgh, Pa.

The good humored account of the Cape Girardeau members of the association is placed beneath a cut of the men who are mentioned in the verses. The verses are well written and breezy.

They speak for themselves as follows:

From Cape Girardeau, Mo.
Editor Plasterer:

The above group picture was taken in front of the new Central High School, one of the finest school buildings in the State of Missouri. The men employed on the job were as follows, numerically:

The plasterers above in the group that you see,
Are jolly good fellows, just take it from me.

No. 1, William Hartung, is our President.

At the plastering trade many years he has spent.

No. 2 is John Dugy, sometimes called "Handsome Slim."

A big-hearted fellow, we think lots of him;
He looks like "Aodins" and has beautiful hair.

And some girls, "God bless 'em," say he's on the square.

Jessie Sheppard comes next, on the card No. 3.

At the game of baseball he has no pedigree,
But if given a chance he might "hit a fowl."

For he's a past master with gun and a trowel.

Bob Grunberg, No. 4; he's a German "by name."

Why they don't call him von Heidelberg it's a shame.

He goes out with the boys, enjoying his beer,

And gets home in good time, never once "on his ear."

No. 5, Harry Wright, he enjoys a good smoke;

Never sits with the boys when they're cracking a joke.

For in blowing the rings from his cherished old pipe,

He gets much of the pleasure that comes in this life.

Henry Hansam comes next; he is wearing a frown,

But to hear him you'd laugh, and he acts like a clown;

His number is 6, and looks the same in this pose

As he does when he stops work, with "mud" on his clothes.

Tom Taylor, the boss of the job's No. 7,

He can tell at a glance if you're square, on the level;

In doing your work, if you don't do it right,

You'll be handed your money before the same night.

No. 8 is yours truly, F. F. Goetz, Financier.

Who takes dues from the boys by the month or the year,

Then sends it to Scully, or elsewhere when told,

And enforces the laws that we're pledged to uphold.

No. 9 on the card, Obermiller by name,

His Christian name's Grover, it's one that had fame;

He has charge of our records and seal, so you know,

He does all the corresponding for Cape Girardeau.

Fraternally yours,
F. F. GOETZ.

W. C. ROSS IS DEAD.

William C. Ross, a brother of Rev. Lynn F. Ross of Jackson, and a pioneer sawmill man, died yesterday afternoon at Pilot Groves. He was well known in Jackson and Cape County.

Mr. Ross was 52 years old. He was in the sawmill business in the southern part of Arkansas several years ago, and for the last fifteen years he had been in the insurance business.

No arrangements had been made for his funeral last night.

Matt Morrison Unroofs House To Oust Tenant

Drains Rain Into Negro's Bedroom and Darkeys are Compelled to Move—Colonel Aids Trouble.

When justices of the peace, deputy sheriffs and his own arguments failed to persuade Berdie Lennox, colored, and her son, Joshua, to vacate one of his houses on Jefferson avenue, Col. Matt Morrison, retired blacksmith and goosbone weather prophet, yesterday afternoon removed the roof during the heavy downpour. This action brought the desired result, and so long as it accomplished its purpose, the Colonel says he doesn't care about the expense of recovering the house.

Berdie Lennox and her son moved into one of the prophet's many houses, after paying him \$7, the price of one month's rent. The Colonel bears the reputation of being a punctual man, especially when it pertains to the question of collecting rents, and he happened at the home of Berdie Lennox on the day the second month's rent fell due.

Berdie didn't happen to have that much cash on hand just on the spur of the moment, and she requested the Colonel to call again. He tweaked his mustache and looked at her over the rim of his spectacles, but said nothing.

Forty-eight hours later he made the second visit and was not the least "put out" when she handed him the whole sum in two bills. "That's the way I like to get it," he remarked as he started for the bank.

But when the second \$7 spent its force, the Colonel's troubles began. He says Berdie told him that the administration at Washington had not made good its promises to swamp the country with prosperity and, therefore, she contended, she would not permit any landlord to push her for rent.

"I can't wait for another whiff of prosperity before you pay me rent," scowled the Colonel.

"Well, I ain't got to pay no rent now, 'cause I ain't got nothin' to pay with," she blurted.

Colonel Morrison went back to his blacksmith shop, where he thought the matter over.

He called now and then to learn Berdie's rating, but each time she assured the goosbone prophet that she had not splashed into Dunn's or Bradstreet's. Finally the Colonel felt that he would have to go into court, and he did.

He sued Berdie and her son and was given a judgment. The next conundrum was how to get possession of his house. Berdie told him she wouldn't move and it didn't look well, she thought, to have him hanging around.

"Well, if you don't move or pay me some rent, I'll tear the roof off this house," threatened the Colonel.

"Yo' ain't gwine 't do nothin'," she shouted at her landlord.

"Oh, how I hate to be taunted by a delinquent tenant," the Colonel confided to his friends.

When the rain began falling yesterday afternoon, Col. Matt and a squad of carpenters stormed the shanty and removed a portion of the roof. The water pipes were turned so that all of the rain that fell upon the house would be drained into Berdie's bedroom.

When she discovered what they had done, Berdie Lennox and her son, tongue-lashed the Colonel and then moved.

"I hopes yo' new year is busted wid hard luck," said Berdie as she left the premises.

"That's the gratitude I get," remarked the goosbone weather expert. "I have more trouble than Lazarus or Job ever heard of. They lived in my house a whole year and only paid two months rent. Ain't it fierce?"

DRINKS ACID; IS RECOVERING.

Jessie Gordon of 545 South Frederick street, a young negro woman, who swallowed a half ounce bottle of carbolic acid Thursday morning, after she had been scolded by her grandmother, Mrs. Emma Lambert, last night was recovering from the effects of the poison.

According to the story that was told to the physician who attended the Gordon woman, she had remained away from home for three days and nights. She returned Wednesday night and Mrs. Lambert scolded her for staying away.

She threatened to drink the acid then, but waited till the following morning when the scolding was renewed, she seized the bottle and emptied its contents. Her face and tongue were badly burned by the acid and she sustained burns internally, which may cause her death. Her mother came down from St. Louis to be at her bedside.

REMEMBERS A FACE FOR A GENERATION

Baker Koeppel Recognizes Woman Whom He Saw First Time In 33 Years.

After they had been away from Southeast Missouri for 33 years, Mrs. Rosie Halt and her daughter, Miss Julia Schatte, were recognized as they stepped from the train in the Cape early yesterday morning by a man now 40 years old, who knew them formerly only as a 7 year old boy would know his neighbor.

The recognition was made by Emil "Baker" Koeppel, driver of the Cape-Jackson automobile. He was at the station when the southbound train arrived early yesterday morning.

The two women asked him to drive them to Egypt Mills, where they wished to reach the bedside of Mrs. Halt's brother, Alvis Ritter, who is in a serious condition in Egypt Mills.

They had traveled all the way from Los Angeles, California, to reach the brother's side before his death.

Koeppel said he experienced a sense of recognition as Mrs. Halt approached him and he said he felt that some place and a long time ago he had known the older woman's daughter, Miss Schatte. He failed at the time to recall the name and the two women failed to recognize Koeppel.

The drive to Egypt Mills in the early morning was abandoned on account of the fog that hung over the roads and the dangerous condition of the highway. Koeppel explained that it would be an extremely dangerous drive in the fog.

The two women stayed at a till morning and then Koeppel called for them at their hotel and took them to Egypt Mills.

Koeppel said he had never before recalled the faces that he had seen and was unable to place the two women. The next morning when he called at the hotel for them, he said to the older woman:

"Are you not Mrs. Schatte?"

"Yes," she replied, "I was, I am married again. Who are you?"

Koeppel explained his situation. Koeppel came to the Cape as a boy, to Egypt Mills and he was married as a boy. His father's name was Koeppel. The Koeppels had been in Egypt Mills up till the time when Mrs. Schatte moved to California and never returned to Egypt Mills. Schatte returned yesterday.

"Sure," put in the daughter, "we used to play together."

Koeppel and Miss Schatte had been juvenile playmates before the Schatte family moved away. When Koeppel told about his parents, Mrs. Halt recalled the circumstances of their life in Egypt Mills more than a generation ago.

Mr. Schatte at that time was the proprietor of a general mercantile company and a flour mill, which made him wealthy. After he went to California, he died, and Mrs. Schatte was married again.

The brother, Alvis Ritter, who is ill, lives over the store that formerly was conducted by Mrs. Schatte's husband.

As Koeppel drove the two women to Egypt Mills, he delineated much of the news of changes in places and the disappearance of people that have occurred in the generation that Mrs. Schatte has been absent.

Miss Anna Golden, who spent the holidays with relatives and friends in Louisville, returned to the Cape yesterday.

B. M. Morgan of Jackson yesterday was a business visitor in the Cape.

GIRL SWALLOWS POISON AFTER LOVERS' QUARREL

Eva Seward Sweetened Her Death Potion With Sugar.

IS RECOVERING NOW AT SOUTH CAPE HOME

Told Sweetheart Did Not Know What Use To Make Of Carbolic.

Following a quarrel with her sweetheart Sunday evening, Miss Eva Seward attempted to commit suicide by drinking a half ounce of carbolic acid at the home of Mrs. Rosa Mann at South Frederick and Walnut streets, where she resides.

Her life was saved when she was forced to expel the acid from her stomach and yesterday she was gradually regaining strength. The physician who was summoned a short time after she drank the acid and administered a emetic, yesterday declared that there is a good chance for her recovery.

The Seward girl, who is about 20 years old and was reared by the late "Mayor of Rigtown," Snook, has been living for some time at the home of Mrs. Mann, who conducts a rooming house. Her sweetheart is Oscar Conley, who is employed at the Lening mill in South Cape.

Sunday sometime she said she got "Shep" Brown, who is well known in South Cape and Hannig, to purchase some carbolic acid at a drug store for her. He gave her the acid late Sunday afternoon and she walked downtown with her sweetheart, Conley.

According to the story that was told by Mrs. Mann, Conley smelled the carbolic acid on the Seward girl as they were walking along the street. He asked her what she intended to do with it and she replied that she did not know. They had been quarreling because of a misunderstanding.

When the girl returned home, she took a glass of water and poured the acid into it. She drank the acid and she felt sick and she walked downtown with her sweetheart, Conley.

About 10 o'clock, however, she went into a room by herself and prepared the acid the way she wanted to take it. She sweetened some water in a glass with a couple of spoonfuls of sugar and poured the contents of the acid bottle into the water. This she drank.

Her friends learned of her act when they heard her fall from a chair to the floor. They attempted to administer home remedies before calling a doctor, and it was about two hours after she had swallowed the acid that a physician arrived at her bedside.

A fight to save her life ensued that lasted for nearly an hour. It seemed to be impossible to make the girl expel the acid. The physician left and an hour later the change for the better came in her condition.

She refused to tell what the trouble over which she and her sweetheart quarreled.

W. H. Brooke, of the Frisco, came up from Chaffee, yesterday on a business trip.

J. H. Happy, of Mayfield, Ky., yesterday visited friends and transacted business in the Cape.

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